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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Report of the Second Committee (Part I)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed Yousif MOHAMED (Sudan)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 23 September 1994, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its forty-ninth session the item entitled:

"Sustainable development and international economic cooperation:

"(a) Trade and development;

"(b) Food and agricultural development;

"(c) Commodities;

"(d) Cultural development;

"(e) Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy;

"(f) Industrial development cooperation;

"(g) United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

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* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/49/728 and addenda.

"(h) International cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries;

"(i) United Nations initiative on opportunity and participation"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held general discussions on the item at its 18th, 19th and 21st to 28th meetings, on 31 October and 2, 8, 10, 11 and 14 to 16 November. An account of the Committee's general discussion on the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/49/SR.18, 19 and 21-28). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 8th meetings, on 7 and 11 to 13 October (see A/C.2/49/SR.3-8).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the 1994 world survey on the role of women in development (A/49/378);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "A review of the specific development needs of small Member States and the responsiveness of the United Nations system to these needs" (A/49/424 and Add.1);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General on renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership (A/49/542);

(d) Letter dated 27 June 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the ministerial statement on an agenda for development, adopted by the Group of 77 in New York on 24 June 1994 (A/49/204-E/1994/90);

(e) Letter dated 27 June 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the ministerial declaration adopted by the Group of 77 in New York on 24 June 1994 (A/49/205-E/1994/91);

(f) Letter dated 11 July 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Barbados to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a copy of the communiqué issued at Bridgetown following the conclusion of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, held in Barbados from 4 to 7 July 1994 (A/49/229);

(g) Letter dated 12 July 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of a letter sent by the President of the Republic of Tunisia and current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity to the Heads of State and Government of the seven most industrialized countries at their meeting held at Naples, Italy, from 8 to 10 July 1994 (A/49/256);

(h) Letter dated 8 August 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of the Final Statement of the twelfth session of the Interaction Council, held at Dresden, Germany, from 7 to 10 June 1994 (A/49/307-S/1994/958);

(i) Letter dated 31 August 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the texts of documents of the Movement of the Non-Aligned Countries (A/49/367);

(j) Letter dated 5 September 1994 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué of the Twenty-fifth South Pacific Forum, held at Brisbane, Australia, from 31 July to 2 August 1994 (A/49/381);

(k) Letter dated 14 September 1994 from the Permanent Representatives of Botswana and Germany to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the declaration by the European Union/Southern Africa Ministerial Conference issued on 6 September 1994 at Berlin (A/49/395);

(l) Letter dated 20 September 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final communiqué issued by the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council at its fifty-second ordinary session, held at Riyadh on 17 September 1994 (A/49/412-S/1994/1078);

(m) Letter dated 15 September 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the documents adopted at the eighth annual summit of the Rio Group, held at Rio de Janeiro on 9 and 10 September 1994 (A/49/422-S/1994/1086);

(n) Letter dated 3 October 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration of the Group of 77 adopted at its eighteenth annual Ministerial Meeting, held in New York on 30 September 1994 (A/49/462 and Corr.1);

(o) Letter dated 30 September 1994 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Tunisia addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the declaration adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Organization of African Unity at their meeting held in New York on 29 September 1994 (A/49/479);

(p) Letter dated 7 October 1994 from the Permanent Representatives of the Russian Federation and the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the texts of the joint statements on strategic stability and nuclear security and on partnership for economic progress, signed by the Presidents of the Russian Federation and the United States of America in Washington on 28 September 1994 (A/49/493-S/1994/1142);

(q) Letter dated 11 October 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,

transmitting the Declaration adopted by the Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries in New York on 4 October 1994 (A/49/506);

(r) Letter dated 17 October 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué of the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly, held at United Nations Headquarters on 5 October 1994 (A/49/532-S/1994/1179).

88 (a). Trade and development

(a) Report of the Trade and Development Board; 1/

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on a development strategy for island developing countries: new challenges, prospects and opportunities for cooperative action (A/49/227 and Add.1 and 2);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on transit transport systems of the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours: current situation and proposals for future action (A/49/277);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening international organizations in the area of multilateral trade (A/49/363);

(e) Letter dated 12 July 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final documents of the G-7 Summit, held at Naples from 8 to 10 July 1994 (A/49/228-S/1994/827);

(f) Note verbale dated 25 October 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the report of the 92nd Conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, held at Copenhagen from 12 to 17 September 1994 (A/49/591);

(g) Letter dated 11 November 1994 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/49/9).

88 (b). Food and agricultural development

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on food production, including agro-industrial products, international markets for agricultural and tropical products and global food security (A/49/438);

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/49/15), vols. I and II.

(b) Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on emergency action to combat locust infestation in Africa (A/49/507).

88 (c). Commodities

(a) Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the commodity situation, developmental linkages between the commodity sector and other sectors, and actions required to develop such linkages in the context of diversification (A/49/226);

(b) Letter dated 12 July 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final documents of the G-7 Summit, held at Naples from 8 to 10 July 1994 (A/49/228-S/1994/827).

88 (d). Cultural development

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the implementation of the World Decade for Cultural Development during 1992-1993 (A/49/159-E/1994/62 and Add.1 and 2).

88 (e). Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy

Report of the Secretary-General on the integration of the economies in transition into the world economy (A/49/330).

88 (f). Industrial development cooperation

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993-2002) (A/49/372);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report submitted by the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization on industrial development cooperation (A/49/347).

88 (g). United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

(a) Report of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II); 2/

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) (A/49/272);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 48/176 of 21 December 1993 (A/49/640).

2/ Ibid., Supplement No. 37 (A/49/37).

88 (h). International cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developed countries

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty (A/49/572);

(b) Letter dated 25 June 1994 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Egypt addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the texts of the documents of the Eleventh Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cairo from 31 May to 3 June 1994 (A/49/287-S/1994/894 and Corr.1).

88 (i). United Nations initiative on opportunity and participation

Note by the Secretariat on the United Nations initiative on opportunity and participation (A/49/541).

4. At the 18th meeting, on 31 October, an introductory statement on sub-item (f) was made by the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (see A/C.2/49/SR.18).

5. At the 19th meeting, on 2 November, an introductory statement on sub-item (g) was made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) (see A/C.2/49/SR.19).

6. At the 21st meeting, on 8 November, introductory statements on the item as a whole were made by the Director-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Jamaica, on behalf of the President of the Trade and Development Board, the Deputy Secretary-General and Officer-in-Charge of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Assistant Director-General responsible for the sector for Culture of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Director of the Macroeconomic and Social Policy Analysis Division of the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis, the representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and representatives of the Division for Sustainable Development and the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development (see A/C.2/49/SR.21).

7. At the 24th meeting, on 14 November, an introductory statement was made by the Under-Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development (see A/C.2/49/SR.24).

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee (Part II)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed Yousif MOHAMED (Sudan)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on item 88 (see A/49/728, para. 2). Action to be taken on sub-item (a) was considered at the 29th to 31st, 34th and 35th meetings, on 23 and 29 November and on 1 and 13 December 1994. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/49/SR.29-31, 34 and 35).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.31

2. At the 29th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Strengthening international organizations in the area of multilateral trade" (A/C.2/49/L.31).

3. At the 31st meeting on 1 December, the Vice Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko S. Raichev (Bulgaria), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.31 (see A/C.2/49/SR.31).

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4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.31, without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/49/L.32 and L.65

5. At the 29th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s: High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s" (A/C.2/49/L.32), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 45/206 of 21 December 1990, in which it endorsed the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 1/ 46/156 of 19 December 1991 on the implementation of the Programme of Action and 47/173 of 22 December 1992 on the implications of the application of the new criteria for identifying the least developed countries in the implementation of the Programme of Action,

"Recalling also its resolution 48/171 of 21 December 1993, in which it decided to convene a high-level intergovernmental meeting to conduct a mid-term global review, in accordance with paragraph 140 of the Programme of Action and its resolution 45/206, on the implementation of the Programme of Action, to be held in the early part of September 1995 or any other suitable date during the second half of 1995,

"Taking note of the Declaration adopted at the Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries, held at United Nations Headquarters on 4 October 1994, in pursuance of the decision taken at the Ministerial Meeting held at Dhaka in February 1990, 2/

"Recalling further that the prime objective of the Programme of Action is to arrest the further deterioration in the socio-economic situation of the least developed countries, to reactivate and accelerate their growth and development and to set them on the path of sustained growth and development,

"Expressing serious concern about the continued deterioration of the economic and social situation of the least developed countries,

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1/ Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

2/ A/49/506, annex.

"Deeply concerned about the limited progress achieved so far in the implementation of the Programme of Action,

"Recognizing that the mid-term global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action is of particular significance as it will provide an opportunity to the international community to set out new and corrective policies and measures, in particular substantially strengthened external support to the least developed countries in all areas, so as to ensure the timely, effective and full implementation of the Programme of Action during the remainder of the 1990s,

"Stressing the importance of timely and adequate preparations for the mid-term global review,

"Emphasizing that adequate resources should be provided to ensure full and effective participation of the least developed countries in the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s,

"Recalling decision 412 (XL) of 29 April 1994 of the Trade and Development Board on the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action, 3/

"Taking note of agreed conclusions 413 (XL) of 29 April 1994 of the Trade and Development Board on the review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the least developed countries for the 1990s, 3/ which was underpinned, inter alia, by The Least Developed Countries 1993-1994 Report, 4/

"1. Reaffirms the commitment of the international community to the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, and calls upon all Governments, international organizations, multilateral financial institutions and development funds, the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and all other organizations concerned to take concrete measures to implement fully and effectively the Programme of Action in all areas as a matter of priority;

"2. Calls upon the donor countries to fulfil their aid commitments as contained in the Programme of Action on a priority basis and adjust them upwardly to reflect fully the additional resource requirements of the least developed countries, including those added to the list of least developed countries following the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/49/15), vol. I, chap. II, sect. A.

4/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.II.D.4.

"3. Decides:

"(a) To convene the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s in New York from 26 September to 6 October 1995, to be preceded by a one-day meeting of senior officials on 25 September 1995. In the event that any Member State offers to host this Meeting, the Trade and Development Board, at its spring session in 1995, would accordingly accede to that offer. The Meeting shall carry out the mid-term global review, consider new measures as necessary, and report to the General Assembly on progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action;

"(b) To convene one session of the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Donor Countries and Multilateral and Bilateral Financial and Technical Assistance Institutions with Representatives of the Least Developed Countries in early 1995 at Geneva, for the duration of one week, in order to prepare for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting;

"(c) To organize regional follow-up meetings by the relevant United Nations regional commissions, in close coordination with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to improve and strengthen existing cooperation arrangements at the regional and subregional levels and provide appropriate inputs to the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting;

"(d) To invite the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to undertake sectoral appraisals in their respective fields on the implementation of the Programme of Action;

"(e) To request that an inter-agency meeting be convened in early 1995 to ensure the full mobilization and coordination of all organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system as part of the preparations for the mid-term global review;

"4. Decides also to defray the cost of participation of two representatives from each least developed country in the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting and one representative from each least developed country to attend the Meeting referred to in paragraph 3 (b) above through reallocation of existing resources of the regular budget, if necessary. Extrabudgetary resources should be explored for this purpose;

"5. Welcomes the steps initiated by the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to convene preparatory expert group meetings and urges donors to provide adequate extrabudgetary resources for that purpose, including for the preparation of substantive documentation;

"6. Reiterates its request to the Secretary-General, in resolution 46/156, to mobilize extrabudgetary resources to ensure the participation of at least one representative from each least developed country at the spring session of the Trade and Development Board, as well as adequate

participation of least developed countries at the preparatory, expert and sectoral meetings for the mid-term global review process;

"7. Urges all countries, as well as multilateral and bilateral financial and technical assistance institutions, to take the necessary steps to ensure appropriate preparations for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting;

"8. Requests all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to submit reports containing a review of the implementation of the Programme of Action within their fields of competence, with special emphasis on areas where commitments have remained unfulfilled, and proposals for new measures as necessary, as further inputs to the preparation for the mid-term global review;

"9. Invites the Secretary-General to make recommendations to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, with a view to ensuring that the Division for the Least Developed Countries in the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development has adequate resources and capacity to undertake an effective follow-up of the outcome of the mid-term global review, to carry out its country-level work more fully and to follow up the conclusions and recommendations relating to the least developed countries adopted by major United Nations conferences;

"10. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session a report on the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting and on the implementation of the present resolution."

6. A statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.32 submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, was contained in document A/C.2/49/L.55.

7. At the 34th meeting, on 13 December, the Vice Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko S. Raichev (Bulgaria), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/49/L.65), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.32, and orally revised operative paragraph 5 by replacing the words "and for financing" with the words "including for financing".

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.65, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution II).

9. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.65, draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.32 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

C. Draft resolutions A/C.2/49/L.34 and L.72

10. At the 29th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group

of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International trade and development" (A/C.2/49/L.34), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 5/ the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 6/ the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, 7/ the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 8/ the Cartagena Commitment, 9/ Agenda 21, 10/ and the various agreements that provide an overall policy framework for sustained economic growth and development in order to address the challenges of the 1990s,

"Recalling its resolution 1995 (XIX) of 30 December 1964, as amended, 11/ on the establishment of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as an organ of the General Assembly, 47/183 of 22 December 1992 on the eighth session of the Conference and 48/55 of 10 December 1993 on international trade and development,

"Noting the progress made by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in the implementation of the outcome of its eighth session, in particular its contribution, within its mandate, to trade and development,

"Emphasizing the importance of an open, rule-based, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable multilateral trading system,

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5/ Resolution S-18/3, annex.

6/ Resolution 45/199, annex.

7/ Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

8/ Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

9/ See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Eighth Session, Report and Annexes (TD/364/Rev.1) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.II.D.5), part one, sect. A.

10/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (vol. I and vol. I/Corr.1, vol. II, vol. III and vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

11/ See resolutions 2904 (XXVII), 31/2 A and B and 34/3.

"Also emphasizing that a favourable international economic environment, in particular a conducive and stable international financial system, is necessary for the economic recovery and growth of the world economy, in particular for the sustained economic growth and sustainable development of developing countries,

"Welcoming the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations at the Ministerial Meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee at Marrakesh, Morocco, on 15 April 1994, and noting that the Uruguay Round agreements 12/ have the potential to contribute to the sustained economic growth and sustainable development of all countries, in particular the developing countries,

"Recognizing that the developing countries have made a major contribution to the success of the Uruguay Round, in particular by accepting the challenges of trade liberalization reforms and measures,

"Also recognizing that open subregional and regional economic integration processes among developing countries have the potential to impart substantial dynamism to global trade and enhance trade and development possibilities for all countries,

"Expressing concern about the possible adverse effects of the implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements on the least developed countries and the net food-importing developing countries,

"Also expressing concern about the possible adverse effects of the implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements on African countries, island developing countries, countries heavily dependent on primary commodity exports and countries heavily dependent on trade preferences,

"Stressing that access to and transfer of technology, including environmentally sound technology, on preferential and concessional terms will have a positive impact on the competitiveness of developing countries,

"1. Takes note of the reports of the Trade and Development Board on the second part and resumed second part of its fortieth session 13/ and the first part of its forty-first session 14/ and calls upon all States to take appropriate action to implement the outcome of those sessions;

"2. Emphasizes the importance of follow-up and monitoring of the implementation of the policies and measures contained in the Cartagena Commitment, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and

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12/ Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994, vol.1.

13/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/49/15), vol. I.

14/ A/49/15 (vol. II).

Development at its eighth session, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 8 to 25 February 1992;

"3. Notes that the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations provides for special and preferential treatment for developing countries;

"4. Stresses the importance of the urgent and full implementation of the agreements contained in the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations and urges all countries, in particular developed countries, to submit the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization to their respective competent authorities for consideration, with a view to seeking prompt approval of the Agreement, in accordance with their national procedures, with a view to its entry into force by 1 January 1995, or as early as possible thereafter;

"5. Stresses also the urgent need for trade liberalization and improved access to the markets of all countries, in particular those of the developed countries, in order to generate global economic growth and sustainable development for the benefit of all countries, in particular the developing countries;

"6. Emphasizes the need for continued evaluation of the implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements to ensure increased market access and expansion of world trade for all countries, in particular the developing countries;

"7. Deplores any attempt to bypass or undermine multilaterally agreed measures of trade liberalization, through resort to unilateral actions, over and above those agreed to in the Uruguay Round, and deplores the use of environmental and social concerns for protectionist purposes;

"8. Emphasizes the importance of giving special attention to the least developed countries, with a view to enhancing their full participation in the multilateral trading system, and emphasizes the importance of commitments pertaining to special and differential measures to mitigate any adverse effects of the implementation of the Uruguay Round;

"9. Emphasizes also that African countries should benefit fully from the results of the Uruguay Round, and stresses the need for technical assistance for African countries to enable them, inter alia, to evaluate the impact of the implementation of the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, to enable them to identify measures to be taken to mitigate possible adverse effects of the agreements and to facilitate their access to the markets of developed countries;

"10. Strongly urges preference-giving countries to improve their preferential schemes and invites the 1995 Policy Review on the Generalized System of Preferences to recommend concrete actions with a view to offsetting the possible erosion of preference in favour of the concerned developing countries;

"11. Reaffirms the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the appropriate focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of development and interrelated issues in the areas of trade, finance, technology, investment, services and sustainable development, and requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its special role in the field of trade and environment, including policy analysis, conceptual work and consensus-building, with a view to ensuring transparency and coherency in making environmental and trade policies mutually supportive, taking into account the work done by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and other competent and regional economic institutions;

"12. Requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to focus and intensify its technical assistance in the light of the Uruguay Round agreements, with the aim of increasing the capacities of developing countries, especially the least developed countries, African countries and island developing countries, so that they may participate effectively in the international trading system;

"13. Requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to make proposals for translating the Marrakesh ministerial commitments regarding the least developed countries and net food-importing countries into concrete action."

11. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation and the United States of America, as well as by the observer for the European Community (see A/C.2/49/SR.29).

12. At the 35th meeting, on 13 December, the Vice Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko Raichev (Bulgaria), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/49/L.72), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.34.

13. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.72 without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution III).

14. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Ukraine made a statement (see A/C.2/49/SR.35).

15. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/49/72, draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.34 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

D. Draft resolutions A/C.2/49/L.36 and L.68

16. At the 29th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Specific measures in favour of island developing countries" (A/C.2/49/L.36), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 45/202 of 21 December 1990 and 47/186 of 22 December 1992 and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

"Recognizing that, in addition to the general problems facing developing countries, many island developing countries experience specific trade and financing-related handicaps arising from their smallness, remoteness, geographical dispersion, vulnerability to natural disasters, the fragility of their ecosystems, constraints on transport and communications, great distances from market centres, a highly limited internal market, lack of natural resources, weak indigenous technological capacity, the acute problem of obtaining fresh water supplies, heavy dependence on imports and small number of commodities, depletion of non-renewable resources, migration, particularly of personnel with high-level skills, shortages of administrative personnel and heavy financial burdens,

"Recognizing also that many of these factors occur concurrently in island developing countries, resulting in economic and social vulnerability and dependence, particularly in those countries that are small and/or geographically dispersed,

"Noting that many island developing countries are least developed countries,

"Mindful of the fact that in the 1990s island developing countries, particularly the small island developing countries that have extremely open and volatile economies, are facing an international economic environment that may strongly affect their ability to achieve sustainable development,

"Concerned about the adverse effects of climate change and sea-level rise on island developing countries,

"Reaffirming the importance of Agenda 21, which was adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and the commitments made therein, particularly in chapter 17, section G, relating to the sustainable development of small island developing States, 15/

"Stressing the importance of the United Nations Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States which was

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15/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I and Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

held in Barbados from 25 April to 6 May 1994 and the Programme of Action adopted by the Conference, 16/

"Taking note of the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, held in Yokohama, Japan, from 23 to 27 May 1994 and the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World, 17/

"1. Reaffirms its resolutions 45/202 and 47/186 and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and calls for their immediate, effective implementation;

"2. Expresses its appreciation to States, organizations and bodies, within and outside the United Nations system, that have responded to the special needs of island developing countries;

"3. Welcomes the Programme of Action adopted at the United Nations Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States; 16/

"4. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on a development strategy for island developing countries; 18/

"5. Welcomes the efforts made by island developing countries to adopt policies that address their specific trade and financing-related problems, including efforts at regional cooperation and integration, and calls upon those countries to continue to pursue, in accordance with their national objectives, policies and priorities, further measures to increase their international competitiveness, render their economies less vulnerable by developing the capacity to respond to shocks due to natural disasters and external economic changes, and promote sustainable development;

"6. Appeals to the international community:

"(a) To maintain and, where possible, increase the level of concessional financial and technical assistance provided to island developing countries;

"(b) To optimize access of island developing countries to concessional financial and technical assistance by taking into account, inter alia, the

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16/ Report of the United Nations Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 26 April-6 May 1994 (A/CONF.167/9 and Corr.1 and 2) (United Nations publication, Sales No. 94.I.18), chap. I, resolution I, annex II.

17/ "Report of the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, Yokohama, 23-27 May 1994" (A/CONF.172/9 and Add.1), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

18/ A/49/227 and Add.1 and 2.

specific development needs and problems with which those countries must contend;

"(c) To consider reviewing the mechanisms of existing procedures used in providing concessional resources to island developing countries, taking into account their situation and development potential;

"(d) To ensure that assistance conforms to the national and, as appropriate, regional priorities of island developing countries;

"(e) To assist those countries to derive maximum benefits from the agreements of the Uruguay Round, to consider improving trade and/or other existing arrangements for assisting them in redressing possible adverse effects of the Uruguay Round on their external trade and to consider wider adoption of such arrangements;

"(f) To continue to ensure that a concerted effort is made to assist island developing countries, at their request, in improving their institutional and administrative capacities and in satisfying their overall needs with regard to the development of human resources;

"(g) To provide technical assistance aimed at the development of diversified exports including "niche" goods and services;

"(h) To provide support to island developing countries to strengthen their national and regional capabilities in the management, exploitation and surveillance of their exclusive economic zones;

"(i) To give high priority to investment and technical assistance projects aimed at improving the quality, efficiency and safety of transport services and infrastructure and the quality and coverage of telecommunications systems;

"(j) To provide assistance, where appropriate, to island developing countries to mitigate the consequences of climate change and sea-level rise;

"(k) To continue providing assistance, where appropriate to island developing States in their preparedness for response to/and mitigation of natural disasters, bearing in mind their special vulnerability;

"7. Invites island developing countries to intensify further their regional and subregional cooperative arrangements and, in particular, to address the problem of high-cost economies, by developing, where appropriate, common services to reduce the high per capita costs of infrastructure and public services and by developing regional transport and communications systems;

"8. Urges once again relevant organizations of the United Nations system to take adequate measures to respond positively to the particular needs of island developing countries and continue to report on such

measures through the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, as appropriate;

"9. Urges the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to strengthen its role, within its mandate, as the focal point for specific action at the global level in favour of island developing countries in the international economic cooperation context, and to act as a catalyst in this regard, inter alia, by continuing its technical assistance to the island developing countries as regards the implementation of the Final Act on the trade and development prospects of these countries, and organizing and facilitating cross-regional interchange of information and experiences, in full cooperation with regional and subregional organizations, both within and outside the United Nations system, as appropriate;

"10. Requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in close cooperation with the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat to convene a meeting of governmental experts of island developing countries, donor countries and development and trade related institutions in 1996 in New York to review the implementation of specific trade and financial-related measures being undertaken at the national, subregional and international levels to address the specific problems and needs of island developing countries in those areas;

"11. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at the fifty-first session on the outcome of the follow-up of the meeting referred to in paragraph 10 above."

17. At the 34th meeting, on 13 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko S. Raichev (Bulgaria), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/49/L.68) which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.36, and orally revised it as follows: in operative paragraph 6, the words "request set forth in [A/C.2/49/L.37/Rev.1] that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development be ensured of a strengthened capacity" were replaced with the words "provision made in [A/C.2/49/L.37/Rev.1] for strengthening the capacity of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development".

18. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.68, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution IV).

19. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.68, draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.36 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

E. Draft resolutions A/C.2/49/L.38 and L.73

20. At the 29th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of the United States of America, subsequently joined by Morocco, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency" (A/C.2/49/L.38), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling the document entitled "A New Partnership for Development: the Cartagena Commitment", adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session in which, inter alia, was launched the concept of trade efficiency and the process leading to the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency,

"Recalling further General Assembly resolution 47/183 of 22 December 1992, entitled "Eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development", in which the Assembly endorsed the convening of a United Nations international symposium on trade efficiency,

"Considering that the outcome of the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency is a concrete and practical contribution to the development objectives and efforts of the United Nations,

"Stressing the importance of trade as a major instrument of economic growth and sustainable development for all countries, in particular developing countries and the need to find solutions to microeconomic issues of international trade which can significantly contribute to more open, dynamic and efficient trade relations,

"Conscious of the significant importance information technology will have in the coming years in enhancing the competitiveness of countries and enterprises through the use of electronic trade,

"Noting the valuable contribution made by various organizations from within and outside the United Nations system to the successful conclusion of the Symposium,

"Reaffirming the need to give priority attention to the problems facing the least developed countries,

"1. Expresses its deep gratitude to the city of Columbus, Ohio, United States of America, for hosting the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency, for the hospitality extended to the participants and for the facilities made available to the Symposium;

"2. Welcomes the adoption of the Columbus Ministerial Declaration on Trade Efficiency, embodying a policy framework and a set of practical actions and recommendations for more efficient trade worldwide, which can generate substantial benefits to all countries;

"3. Welcomes further the official launching of the Global Trade Point Network, which, by electronically interconnecting trade points worldwide, would allow all member countries to trade more efficiently with each other and assist those that have so far remained at the fringe of international trade to participate actively and profitably in it, in particular the least developed countries and small and medium-sized enterprises in all countries;

"4. Expresses its satisfaction with the high-level participation in the Symposium, with the innovative procedures introduced for making the proceedings of the Symposium more dynamic and action-oriented, including better interaction among the governmental and non-governmental participants, and with the genuine efforts made to achieve a paperless conference, in line with the objective of trade efficiency;

"5. Invites all States to take an active part in the implementation of the Columbus Ministerial Declaration on Trade Efficiency and stresses the importance of the private sector and the close cooperation between it and national and local government authorities;

"6. Expresses its appreciation to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development for organizing the Symposium, which recognized the importance of market forces and trade liberalization to achieve economic development, fostered increased cooperation among developed and developing countries, and encouraged an open exchange of views on practical, market-oriented solutions to real problems of economic development with all the actors on trade, both public and private;

"7. Encourages the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its efforts to promote the use of the global marketplace to support development and the implementation of the provisions of the Columbus Ministerial Declaration, in particular the establishment of trade points and their integration in the Global Trade Point Network, with the cooperation of the private sector and, as appropriate, the United Nations Development Programme, international financial institutions, and donor Governments;

"8. Stresses the importance of an integrated effort within the United Nations system in the implementation of the concept of trade efficiency, and requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its close cooperation with relevant bodies and organizations so as to take full benefit of the synergies existing among them;

"9. Notes the interest of the Trade and Development Board in considering follow-up action to the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency, and expresses its interest in being apprised of developments in this respect in the context of its consideration of the item 'Trade and development'."

21. At the 35th meeting, on 13 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko S. Raichev (Bulgaria), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/49/L.73), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.38.

22. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.73 without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution V).

23. In the light of the adoption of the draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.73, draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.38 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

F. Draft resolutions A/C.2/49/L.43 and L.64

24. At the 30th meeting, on 29 November, the representative of Afghanistan, on behalf of Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkey, subsequently joined by Pakistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Assistance to the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours" (A/C.2/49/L.43), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 48/170 of 21 December 1993, in which it recognized the necessity of improving the efficiency of the current transit environment in the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours,

"Recalling also its resolution 48/169 of 21 December 1993, entitled "Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries", and expecting that the newly independent land-locked States in Central Asia will participate in the activities and meetings referred to in that resolution,

"Recalling further the agreed conclusions and recommendations on priority areas and modalities for further action to improve transit systems in land-locked and transit developing countries of the Meeting of Governmental Experts from Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions, convened by the Trade and Development Board in New York from 17 to 19 May 1993, as set forth in the report of the Meeting of Governmental Experts, 19/

"Recalling further in particular those paragraphs of the agreed conclusions and recommendations of the Meeting of Governmental Experts pertaining to the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours,

"Noting that these countries are seeking to enter world markets and that such an objective requires the establishment of a multi-country transit system,

"Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness and isolation from world markets, and prohibitive transit costs and risks impose serious constraints on the overall socio-economic development efforts of these countries,

"Recognizing also that most of the countries providing alternative transit routes are themselves developing countries facing serious economic

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19/ TD/B/40(1)/2-TD/B/LDC/AC.1/4.

problems, including the lack of adequate infrastructure in the transport sector,

"Supporting the current efforts being undertaken bilaterally and multilaterally by the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours to address the issues of the development of a viable transit infrastructure in the region,

"Recognizing the important role played by bilateral cooperative arrangements by multilateral agreements, by regional and subregional cooperation and, in particular, the Economic Cooperation Organization, which the General Assembly, in its resolution 48/2, invited to participate in its sessions and work in the capacity of observer, in solving the transit problems in the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours,

"Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on transit transport systems of the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours: current situation and proposals for future action, 20/

"Noting that this report, as stated in paragraph 1 of its introduction, represents a first approximation only towards a fuller elaboration of more concrete programmes of action for dealing with the issues,

"Recognizing that to be effective, a transit transport strategy for the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours should incorporate actions that both address the difficulties inhering in the use of existing transit routes and pave the way for the early development and smooth functioning of new, alternative routes,

"Emphasizing the importance of strengthening international assistance for carrying out a comprehensive and full-scale analysis of the transport and transit problems of the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours in order to make concrete recommendations, establish priorities and seek support for implementation action needed to improve the transport and transit situation in these countries,

"1. Invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Europe, the Economic Cooperation Organization, and with other relevant regional organizations, to elaborate a programme for improving the efficiency of the current transit environment in the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours and to make a comprehensive analysis of the

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20/ A/49/277.

transit system for Central Asian countries, paying particular attention to the development of all new, appropriate and feasible alternative transit routes and corridors, including the shortest ones, and to submit an interim progress report thereon to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session;

"2. Calls upon donor countries and multilateral financial and development institutions to provide newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours with appropriate financial and technical assistance in the form of grants or concessional loans for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes and improved communications;

"3. Invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in collaboration with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, and the Executive Secretaries of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Economic Commission for Europe, to provide technical assistance to the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours in such areas as the elaboration of adequate arrangements for payment systems for transit services, the improvement of physical transit infrastructure facilities and regional transport planning, the development and updating as appropriate of bilateral, regional and subregional transit facilitation agreements and arrangements, and the accession to relevant international conventions in the field of transport and transit;

"4. Requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in collaboration with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Europe, and the Economic Cooperation Organization and with other relevant regional organizations, to hold a regional symposium for the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours during the first half of 1996 to evaluate the progress of action on the recommendations contained in the present resolution and to agree on an appropriate follow-up programme of action;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session."

25. At the 34th meeting, on 13 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko S. Raichev (Bulgaria), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Transit environment in the land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours" (A/C.2/49/L.64), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.43, and orally revised in operative paragraph 1, by adding the words "and relevant regional organizations" after the words "Economic Commission for Europe".

26. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.64, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution VI).

27. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Sweden, Belarus, Kazakhstan and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

28. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.64, draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.43 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

29. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Strengthening international organizations in the area of multilateral trade

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/201 of 21 December 1990, 46/207 of 20 December 1991, 47/184 of 22 December 1992 and 48/54 of 10 December 1993, in which it requested the Secretary-General to prepare reports on institutional developments, taking into account all relevant proposals related to the strengthening of international organizations in the area of multilateral trade,

Welcoming the progress made by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in the implementation of the outcome of its eighth session, in particular the positive results of the mid-term review of the work programme,

Welcoming also the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations at the Ministerial Meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee, held at Marrakesh, Morocco, on 15 April 1994, in particular the Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization, 21/

Taking note of the Declaration of the Trade and Development Board on the thirtieth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, 22/

21/ Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994, vol. 1.

22/ A/49/15 (Vol. II), chap. I, sect. A, decision 416 (XLI).

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening international organizations in the area of multilateral trade, 23/

Recognizing that there should be constructive and effective cooperation between the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization, based on their complementary functions,

1. Notes the ongoing exchange of views between the Secretary-General and the Director-General of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade on the issue of establishing a relationship between the United Nations and the World Trade Organization;

2. Urges all Governments, competent regional economic integration organizations and the executive heads of the competent specialized agencies and of other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to continue to present their views to the Secretary-General on institutional developments related to the strengthening of international organizations in the area of multilateral trade;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on further institutional developments related to the strengthening of international organizations in the area of multilateral trade and, in preparing that report, to solicit the views of all Governments, competent regional economic integration organizations and the executive heads of the competent specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system on institutional developments related to the strengthening of international organizations in the area of multilateral trade.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s: High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/206 of 21 December 1990, in which it endorsed the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 24/ 46/156 of 19 December 1991 on the implementation of the Programme of Action and 47/173 of 22 December 1992 on the implications of the application of the new criteria for identifying the least developed countries in the implementation of the Programme of Action,

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23/ A/49/363.

24/ Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

Recalling also its resolution 48/171 of 21 December 1993, in which it decided to convene a high-level intergovernmental meeting to conduct a mid-term global review, in accordance with paragraph 140 of the Programme of Action and its resolution 45/206, on the implementation of the Programme of Action, to be held in the early part of September 1995 or any other suitable date during the second half of 1995,

Taking note of the Declaration adopted at the Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries, held at United Nations Headquarters on 4 October 1994, in pursuance of the decision taken at the Ministerial Meeting held at Dhaka in February 1990, 25/

Recalling further that the prime objective of the Programme of Action is to arrest the further deterioration in the socio-economic situation of the least developed countries, to reactivate and accelerate their growth and development and to set them on the path of sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

Expressing serious concern about the continued deterioration of the economic and social situation of the least developed countries as a whole,

Also expressing concern about the limited progress achieved so far in the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Recognizing that the mid-term global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action is of particular significance as it will provide an opportunity to the international community to set out new and corrective policies and measures, including strengthened external support to the least developed countries in all areas, to support their efforts so as to ensure the timely, effective and full implementation of the Programme of Action during the remainder of the decade,

Stressing the importance of timely and adequate preparations for the mid-term global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Also stressing that adequate resources should be provided to ensure the full and effective participation of the least developed countries in the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s,

Recalling decision 412 (XL) of 29 April 1994 of the Trade and Development Board on the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action, 26/

25/ A/49/506, annex.

26/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/49/15), vol. I, chap. II, sect. A.

Taking note of agreed conclusions 413 (XL) of 29 April 1994 of the Trade and Development Board on the review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the least developed countries for the 1990s, 26/ which was underpinned, inter alia, by The Least Developed Countries 1993-1994 Report, 27/

1. Reaffirms the commitment of the international community to the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, and calls upon all Governments, international organizations, multilateral financial institutions and development funds, the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and all other organizations concerned to take concrete measures to implement fully and effectively the Programme of Action in all areas as a matter of priority;

2. Stresses that progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action will require effective implementation of national policies and priorities by the least developed countries for their economic growth and development, as well as strong and committed partnership between those countries and their development partners;

3. Calls upon the donor countries to fulfil their aid commitments as contained in the Programme of Action on a priority basis and to adjust them upwardly to reflect fully the additional resource requirements of the least developed countries, including those added to the list of least developed countries following the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

4. Decides:

(a) To convene the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s in New York from 26 September to 6 October 1995, to be preceded by a one-day meeting of senior officials on 25 September 1995. In the event that any Member State offers to host this Meeting, the Trade and Development Board, at its spring session in 1995, would accordingly consider that offer. The Meeting shall carry out the mid-term global review, consider new measures as necessary, and report to the General Assembly on progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action;

(b) To convene one session of the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Donor Countries and Multilateral and Bilateral Financial and Technical Assistance Institutions with Representatives of the Least Developed Countries in early 1995 at Geneva, for a duration of one week, in order to prepare for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting;

(c) To organize regional follow-up meetings by the relevant United Nations regional commissions, in close coordination with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to improve and strengthen existing cooperation

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27/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.II.D.4.

arrangements at the regional and subregional levels and provide appropriate inputs to the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting;

(d) To invite the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to undertake sectoral appraisals in their respective fields on the implementation of the Programme of Action;

(e) To request that an inter-agency meeting be convened in early 1995 to ensure the full mobilization and coordination of all organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system as part of the preparations for the mid-term global review;

5. Also decides to defray the cost of participation of two representatives from each least developed country in the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting by the utilization of unexpended extrabudgetary funds from the voluntary trust fund established in accordance with General Assembly resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989 and through the reallocation of existing resources of the regular budget, if necessary. Extrabudgetary resources should also be explored for this purpose, including for financing the cost of participation of one representative from each least developed country in the meeting referred to in paragraph 4 (b) above;

6. Welcomes the steps initiated by the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to convene preparatory expert group meetings, and invites donors to provide adequate extrabudgetary resources for that purpose, including for the preparation of substantive documentation;

7. Reiterates its request to the Secretary-General, in resolution 46/156, to mobilize extrabudgetary resources to ensure the participation of at least one representative from each least developed country at the spring session of the Trade and Development Board, as well as the adequate participation of least developed countries at the preparatory, expert and sectoral meetings for the mid-term global review process;

8. Urges all countries, as well as multilateral and bilateral financial and technical assistance institutions, to take the necessary steps to ensure appropriate preparations for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting;

9. Requests all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to submit reports containing a review of the implementation of the Programme of Action within their fields of competence, with special emphasis on areas where commitments have remained unfulfilled, and proposals for new measures as necessary, as further inputs to the preparation for the mid-term global review;

10. Invites the Secretary-General to make recommendations to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, with a view to ensuring that the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development has sufficient capacity to undertake an effective follow-up of the outcome of the mid-term global review, and to follow up the conclusions and recommendations relating to the least developed countries adopted by major United Nations conferences;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session a report on the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting and on the implementation of the present resolution.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

International trade and development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 28/ the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 29/ the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, 30/ the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 31/ the Cartagena Commitment, 32/ Agenda 21 33/ and the various agreements that provide an overall policy framework for sustained economic growth and sustainable development in order to address the challenges of the 1990s,

Recalling its resolutions 1995 (XIX) of 30 December 1964, as amended, 34/ on the establishment of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as an organ of the General Assembly, 47/183 of 22 December 1992 on the eighth session of the Conference and 48/55 of 10 December 1993 on international trade and development,

Noting the progress made by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in the implementation of the outcome of its eighth session, in particular its contribution, within its mandate, to trade and development,

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28/ Resolution S-18/3, annex.

29/ Resolution 45/199, annex.

30/ Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

31/ Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

32/ See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Eighth Session, Report and Annexes (TD/364/Rev.1) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.II.D.5), part one, sect. A.

33/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (vol. I and vol. I/Corr.1, vol. II, vol. III and vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I, Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

34/ See resolutions 2904 (XXVII), 31/2 A and B and 34/3.

Emphasizing the importance of an open, rule-based, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable multilateral trading system,

Also emphasizing that a favourable and conducive international economic and financial environment and a positive investment climate are necessary for the economic recovery and growth of the world economy, in particular for the sustained economic growth and sustainable development of developing countries,

Welcoming the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations at the Ministerial Meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee, held at Marrakesh, Morocco, on 15 April 1994, and noting that the Uruguay Round agreements 35/ represent an historic achievement, which is expected to contribute to strengthening the world economy and to lead to more trade, investment, employment and income growth throughout the world and in particular to the promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in developing countries,

Noting that the Uruguay Round agreements represent a substantial liberalization of international trade, the strengthening of multilateral rules and disciplines to ensure more stability and predictability in trade relations, the establishing of rules and disciplines in new areas and the founding of a new institutional framework in the form of the World Trade Organization, with an integrated dispute settlement mechanism which should avoid unilateral actions against international trade rules,

Recognizing that the developing countries have made a major contribution to the success of the Uruguay Round, in particular by accepting the challenges of trade liberalization reforms and measures and stressing that there is a need for positive efforts designed to ensure that developing countries, and especially the least developed among them, secure a share in the growth in international trade commensurate with the needs of their economic development,

Also recognizing that subregional and regional economic integration processes, including those among developing countries, which have intensified in recent years, impart substantial dynamism to global trade and enhance trade and development possibilities for all countries, and stressing that in order to maintain the positive aspects of such integration arrangements and to assure the prevalence of their dynamic growth effects, Member States and groupings should strive to be outward oriented and supportive of the multilateral trading system,

Expressing concern that during the reform programme leading to greater liberalization of trade in agriculture, least developed countries and net food importing developing countries may experience negative effects in terms of the availability of adequate supplies of basic foodstuffs from external sources on reasonable terms and conditions, including short-term difficulties in financing normal levels of commercial imports of basic foodstuffs, and stressing, in this context, the importance of establishing appropriate mechanisms, as provided in paragraph 3 of the decision on measures concerning the possible negative effects

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35/ Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994, vol. 1.

of the reform programme on least developed and net food importing developing countries of the Final Act of the Uruguay Round, 8/ and stressing also the need to keep under review the specific needs of the least developed countries and to continue to seek the adoption of positive measures that will facilitate the expansion of trading opportunities in favour of those countries,

Recognizing the importance of assisting, in particular, African countries and island developing countries so that they benefit fully from the implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements,

Recognizing also that the full integration of countries with economies in transition into the multilateral trading system would have a positive impact on world trade and global economic growth and sustainable development, and stressing, in this context, the importance of promoting the trade of developing countries with economies in transition, as well as regional economic integration processes and cooperation among economies in transition and between them and developing countries,

Stressing the need to promote, facilitate and finance, as appropriate, access to and the transfer of environmentally sound technology and the corresponding know-how, in particular to the developing countries, on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights, as well as the special needs of the developing countries for the implementation of Agenda 21,

Taking note with satisfaction of the decision on trade, environment and sustainable development adopted by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its second session, 36/ and, in this context, recognizing in the spirit of a new global partnership for sustainable development the need for a balanced and integrated approach to environment, trade and development issues,

Recognizing the significance of the establishment in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development of an ad hoc working group on trade, environment and development, encouraging the interaction of the Conference with other institutions with mandates in this area, in particular the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme,

1. Takes note of the reports of the Trade and Development Board on the second part and resumed second part of its fortieth session 37/ and the first part of its forty-first session, 38/ and calls upon all States to take appropriate action to implement the outcome of those sessions;

36/ See Original Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 15, paras. 25-38.

37/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/49/15), vol. I.

38/ A/49/15 (vol. II).

2. Emphasizes the importance of follow-up and monitoring of the implementation of the policies and measures contained in the Cartagena Commitment, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 8 to 25 February 1992;

3. Stresses the urgent need for trade liberalization, including through substantial reduction of tariffs and other barriers to trade and the elimination of discriminatory treatment in international trade relations, and improved access to the markets of all countries, in particular those of the developed countries, in order to generate global economic growth and sustainable development for the benefit of all countries, in particular the developing countries;

4. Stresses also the importance of the urgent and full implementation of the agreements contained in the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations and the significance of the entering into force of the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization by 1 January 1995;

5. Emphasizes the importance of the full implementation of the provisions contained in the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, which confers special and differential treatment for developing countries, including giving special attention to the situation of the least developed countries;

6. Emphasizes also the need for continued evaluation of the implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements to ensure the expansion of world trade in order to promote sustained global economic growth and sustainable development;

7. Deplores any attempt to bypass or undermine multilaterally agreed measures of trade liberalization, through resort to unilateral actions, over and above those agreed to in the Uruguay Round, and reaffirms that environmental and social concerns should not be used for protectionist purposes;

8. Recognizes that, in order to promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development, environment and trade policies should be made mutually supportive and, in this context, takes note with satisfaction of the decision taken at the Ministerial Meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee to establish a Committee on Trade and Environment;

9. Emphasizes the importance of giving special attention to the least developed countries, with a view to enhancing their full participation in the multilateral trading system, and emphasizes the importance of commitments pertaining to special and differential measures to mitigate any adverse effects of the implementation of the Uruguay Round;

10. Emphasizes also that African countries should benefit fully from the results of the Uruguay Round, and stresses the need for technical assistance for African countries to enable them, inter alia, to evaluate the impact of the implementation of the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of

Multilateral Trade Negotiations, to enable them to identify adaptive measures to enhance their competitiveness and to facilitate their access to developed countries' markets;

11. Requests preference-giving countries to consider improvements in their preferential schemes and invites the 1995 Policy Review on the Generalized System of Preferences to examine possible adaptations to the Generalized System of Preferences, taking into account paragraphs 134 to 140 of the Cartagena Commitment;

12. Reaffirms the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the appropriate focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of development and interrelated issues in the areas of trade, finance, technology, investment, services and sustainable development, and requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its role in the field of trade and environment, including policy analysis, conceptual work and consensus-building, with a view to ensuring transparency and coherency in making environmental and trade policies mutually supportive, taking into account the work done by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and other competent and regional economic institutions;

13. Stresses the need for the full integration of the economies in transition, as well as other countries, into the world economy, in particular through improved market access for their exports, including through, in accordance with multilateral trade rules, the reduction and elimination of discriminatory tariff and non-tariff measures, and the further liberalization of their trade regimes, including vis-à-vis developing countries, and also stresses, in this context, the usefulness of studies and technical assistance provided by the United Nations system regarding trade and trade-related problems that the economies in transition are encountering in their integration into the multilateral trading system;

14. Requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to focus and intensify its technical assistance in the light of the Uruguay Round agreements, with the aim of increasing the capacities of developing countries, especially the least developed countries, African countries and island developing countries, so that they may participate effectively in the international trading system;

15. Requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to make proposals for translating the commitments made at the Ministerial Meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee regarding the least developed countries and net food-importing countries into concrete action.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Specific measures in favour of island developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/202 of 21 December 1990 and 47/186 of 22 December 1992 and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

Recognizing that, in addition to the general problems facing developing countries, many island developing countries experience specific trade- and financing-related handicaps and that many of these factors subsist concurrently in island developing countries, resulting in economic and social vulnerability and dependence, particularly in those countries that are small and/or geographically dispersed,

Mindful of the fact that in the 1990s, island developing countries, particularly the small island developing countries that have extremely open and volatile economies, are facing an international economic environment that may adversely affect their trading opportunities,

Stressing the need for support measures to enable the island developing countries to obtain maximum benefit from the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, 39/

Underscoring the importance of international cooperation to support policies and measures of island developing countries in the area of trade so as to complement the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, 40/ adopted at the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

Noting that many island developing countries are least developed countries,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the States, organizations and bodies, within and outside the United Nations system, that have responded to the special needs of island developing countries;

2. Welcomes the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States 40/ and the Declaration of Barbados, 41/ adopted at the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island

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39/ Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994, vol. 1.

40/ Report of the United Nations Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994 (A/CONF.167/9 and Corr.1 and 2) (United Nations publication, Sales No. 94.I.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

41/ Ibid., annex I.

Developing States, held at Bridgetown, Barbados, from 25 April to 6 May 1994 (hereinafter referred to as the Barbados Conference);

3. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on a development strategy for island developing countries; 42/

4. Welcomes the efforts made by island developing countries at national and regional levels to enhance their international competitiveness and to expand their trading opportunities;

5. Calls upon the international community to implement all the commitments achieved and the recommendations made at the Barbados Conference and to take the necessary action to give effective follow-up to the Programme of Action and, in relation to trade and development issues with respect to island developing countries, reiterates the appeals made in paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 47/186;

6. Notes the valuable role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in support of island developing countries, as recalled in General Assembly resolution 47/186, and welcomes the provision made in [A/C.2/49/L.37/Rev.1] for strengthening the capacity of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to carry out, in accordance with its mandate, research and analysis necessary to complement the work of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the Secretariat;

7. Invites the Commission on Sustainable Development to convene, during its session in 1996, a high-level panel to discuss the challenges faced by island developing countries, particularly in the area of external trade, and to assist the Commission in its review of the implementation of the Programme of Action agreed at the Barbados Conference, and also invites the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to organize that panel in cooperation with the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to monitor and review in a coordinated manner, inter alia, within the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development and the secretariats of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the concerns and needs of island developing countries;

9. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution and, in recognition of the complementarity between the follow-up to the Barbados Conference and ongoing island developing country programmes, further requests the Secretary-General to take measures to provide for integrated reporting on, and synergetic consideration of, these issues.

42/ A/49/227 and Add.1 and 2.

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency

The General Assembly,

Recalling the document entitled "A New Partnership for Development: the Cartagena Commitment", 43/ adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session, in which, inter alia, was launched the concept of trade efficiency and the process leading to the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency,

Recalling further its resolution 47/183 of 22 December 1992, entitled "Eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development", in which it endorsed the convening of a United Nations international symposium on trade efficiency,

Considering that the outcome of the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency held at Columbus, Ohio, United States of America, from 17 to 21 October 1994, is a concrete and practical contribution to the development objectives and efforts of the United Nations,

Stressing the importance of trade as a major instrument of economic growth and sustainable development for all countries, in particular developing countries and the need to find solutions to microeconomic issues of international trade, which can significantly contribute to more open, dynamic and efficient trade relations,

Conscious of the significant importance information technology and the application of efficient trading practices will have in the coming years in enhancing the competitiveness of countries and enterprises through the use of electronic trade,

Noting the valuable contribution made by various organizations from within and outside the United Nations system and in particular by Working Party IV of the Economic Commission for Europe to the successful conclusion of the Symposium,

Reaffirming the need to give priority attention to the problems facing the developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and encouraging all developing countries to continue to be active participants in international trade affairs and to adopt proved and successful business methods and techniques,

1. Expresses its deep gratitude to the Government and the people of the United States of America, as well as to the city of Columbus, Ohio, for hosting the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency, for the hospitality extended to the participants and for the facilities made available to the Symposium;

43/ TD/364.

2. Welcomes the adoption of the Columbus Ministerial Declaration on Trade Efficiency, embodying a policy framework and a set of practical actions and recommendations for more efficient trade worldwide, which can generate substantial benefits to all countries;

3. Also welcomes the official launching of the Global Trade Point Network, which, by electronically interconnecting trade points worldwide, will allow all member countries to trade more efficiently with each other and assist those that have so far remained at the fringe of international trade to participate actively and profitably in it, in particular the least developed countries and small and medium-sized enterprises in all countries;

4. Expresses its satisfaction with the high-level participation in the Symposium, with the innovative procedures introduced for making the proceedings of the Symposium more dynamic and action-oriented, including better interaction among the governmental and non-governmental participants;

5. Invites all States to take an active part in the implementation of the Columbus Ministerial Declaration on Trade Efficiency and stresses the importance of all actors, in particular private sector actors, and the close cooperation between private sector actors and national and local government authorities for purposes of such implementation;

6. Expresses its appreciation to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development for organizing the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency, which underscored the importance of market forces and trade liberalization to achieve economic development, demonstrated the necessity of combining policy and practice, fostered increased cooperation among developed countries, developing countries and economies in transition and encouraged an open exchange of views on practical, market-oriented solutions to problems of economic development with all the actors on trade, both public and private;

7. Encourages the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its efforts to promote the use of the global marketplace to support development and the implementation of the provisions of the Columbus Ministerial Declaration, in particular the establishment of trade points and their integration in the Global Trade Point Network, based on open systems and internationally recognized standards which guarantee equality of access for all countries to the network of trade points, with the cooperation, as appropriate, of the private sector and the relevant bodies of the United Nations system;

8. Stresses the importance of an integrated effort within the United Nations system in the implementation of the concept of trade efficiency, and requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its efforts in the trade efficiency areas and to do so through close cooperation with relevant bodies and organizations so as to take full benefit of the synergies existing among them;

9. Notes the interest of the Trade and Development Board in considering follow-up action to the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency, and expresses its interest in being apprised of developments in this respect in the context of its consideration of the item "Trade and development".

DRAFT RESOLUTION VI

Transit environment in the land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/169 and 48/170 of 21 December 1993,

Recalling further the agreed conclusions and recommendations of the Meeting of Governmental Experts from Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions, convened by the Trade and Development Board in New York from 17 to 19 May 1993, 44/ and in particular, the conclusions and recommendations of the above Meeting pertaining to the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours,

Recognizing that the overall socio-economic development efforts of these countries, seeking to enter world markets through the establishment of a multicountry transit system, are impeded by a lack of territorial access to the sea as well as by remoteness and isolation from world markets,

Supporting the current efforts being undertaken by the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours through relevant multilateral, bilateral and regional arrangements to address the issues regarding the development of a viable transit infrastructure in the region,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Transit transport systems of the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours: current situation and proposals for future action", 45/

Noting that the report, as stated in paragraph 1 of its introduction, represents a first approximation only towards a fuller elaboration of more concrete programmes of action for dealing with the issues,

Recognizing that to be effective, a transit transport strategy for the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours should incorporate actions that address both the problems inhering in the use of existing transit routes and the early development and smooth functioning of new, alternative routes,

Emphasizing the importance of strengthening international support measures to address further the problems of newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours,

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44/ TD/B/40(1)/2-TD/B/LDC/AC.1/4.

45/ A/49/277.

1. Invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in consultation with the Governments concerned and in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Europe and relevant regional organizations, and, in accordance with approved programme priorities and within existing financial resources, to elaborate a programme for improving the efficiency of the current transit environment in the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours and to make a comprehensive analysis and study of the transit system for Central Asian countries, paying particular attention to the development of all new, appropriate and feasible alternative transit routes and corridors, including the shortest ones;

2. Invites donor countries and multilateral financial and development institutions, within their mandates, to provide newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours with appropriate financial and technical assistance for the improvement of the transit environment for these countries;

3. Requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in collaboration with the relevant international and regional organizations referred to in the present resolution, to study the possibility of holding, within existing financial resources, a regional symposium for the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours, with the participation of other interested States, on transport and transit issues in the region, upon completion of the comprehensive analysis and study requested in paragraph 1 of the present resolution and before this issue is taken up by the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

4. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee (Part III)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed Yousif MOHAMED (Sudan)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on item 88 (see A/49/728, para. 2). Action to be taken on sub-item (b) was considered at the 30th and 33rd meetings, on 29 November and 9 December 1994. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/49/SR.30 and 33).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/49/L.40 and L.62

2. At the 29th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Food and agricultural development" (A/C.2/49/L.40), which read:

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* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/49/728 and addenda.

"Food and agricultural development

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming the importance and continued validity of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 1/ the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 2/ the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, 3/ the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 4/ the Cartagena Commitment, 5/ Agenda 21, 6/ and the various consensus agreements and conventions that were adopted in the context of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

"Reaffirming also its resolutions 45/207 of 21 December 1990, 47/149 of 18 December 1992 and 47/193 of 22 December 1992,

"Recognizing that freshwater resources are a scarce commodity in a growing number of countries and that there is a need to increase food production in developing countries, in part through the improved use of irrigation and water resource management suitable for agricultural production,

"Recognizing the work undertaken by the Commission on Sustainable Development in the area of freshwater resources,

"Stressing with concern that hunger and malnutrition have been increasing in many countries, particularly in Africa,

"Stressing the need to provide the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that operate in the areas of food and agriculture

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1/ Resolution S-18/3, annex.

2/ Resolution 45/199, annex.

3/ Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

4/ Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

5/ TD/364, part one, sect. A, "A New Partnership for Development: The Cartagena Commitment", adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 8 to 25 February 1992.

6/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

with increased adequate resources in order that they may implement their mandates,

"Recognizing the importance of stimulating food production and productivity in developing countries through appropriate policies, taking fully into account Agenda 21, and by ensuring a sustainable economic environment, including a more open trading system, for the development of a viable agricultural sector and improved food security, and in that context stressing the importance of the urgent and full implementation of the agreements contained in the Final Act embodying the results of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations,

"1. Takes note with interest of the report of the Secretary-General on food production, including agro-industrial products, international markets for agricultural and tropical products and global food security; 7/

"2. Notes with concern that in the face of the enormous challenges in the area of agricultural development, the resource allocation for the development of food and agriculture in developing countries has continued to decline;

"3. Urges the international community to place food and agricultural development high on the development agenda and to mobilize resources at the national, bilateral and multilateral levels in support of sustainable productive agriculture and food security in developing countries;

"4. Notes with satisfaction the individual and collaborative efforts of the food and agriculture bodies based in Rome, namely the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Food Programme, and welcomes in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization's special programme on food production or food security in low-income food-deficit countries;

"5. Notes that the agreements reached in the context of the Final Act of the Uruguay Round will have an important impact on the development of food production, agro-industrial products and international markets for agricultural and tropical products, as well as on global food security;

"6. Calls on donor countries to support the Food and Agriculture Organization's special programme on the Uruguay Round decision on measures concerning the possible negative effects of the reform programme on least developed and net food-importing developing countries;

"7. Urges the international community to give special attention to the promotion and revitalization of economic growth and development in developing countries, through, inter alia, a more diversified food and agricultural sector, focusing in particular on agro-industrial activities in developing countries;

7/ A/49/438.

"8. Invites the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as the multilateral financial institutions working in the field of food and agriculture, to support developing country efforts in the development of small- and medium-sized agro-industries and in the improvement of processing, transportation, distribution and marketing modalities of their food and other agricultural products;

"9. Urges all countries, particularly developed countries, to strengthen their efforts to work towards a more equitable international economic environment, in particular regarding a fairer, more open and more viable agricultural trading system that will stimulate food production and productivity in developing countries;

"10. Welcomes the successful conclusion of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, 8/ hopes that the Convention will attract the support of the international community towards solving the important problem confronting Africa in that area, and in that regard supports the contribution made by, inter alia, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development to deal with the problem of land degradation in Africa, and invites those organizations to consider extending their programmes to other affected regions;

"11. Recommends to the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as the multilateral financial institutions, in close cooperation with the countries concerned, that they carry out jointly an in-depth assessment of global freshwater resources and their use by each country to identify problems that either are critical at present or will be critical in the near future, and that they recommend strategies and policies to avoid a global freshwater crisis;

"12. Requests the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as the multilateral financial institutions, to assist interested developing countries in the formulation and implementation of national water policies and strategies;

"13. Invites Governments, international organizations and, as appropriate, scientific-technical organizations to promote sustainable water use for food production and rural development by improving the efficiency of current water use for irrigation in developing countries, particularly at the village level;

"14. Requests relevant regional and international organizations to assist the cooperative efforts of developing countries in the area of sustainable and integrated water management aimed at augmenting water resources in order to meet the increased demand for those resources;

8/ A/49/84/Add.2, annex, appendix II.

"15. Welcomes the pledges that have been made by Member States to the Fourth Replenishment of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, and in that context invites countries that have not yet done so to announce their pledges as soon as possible, taking into account the decisions taken by the Fund's Special Committee on Resource Requirements and Related Governance Issues;

"16. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, focusing in particular on the use of freshwater resources, as well as on the effects of the results of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations on food production, including agro-industrial products and global food security in developing countries;

"17. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the sub-item entitled 'Food and agricultural development' under the item entitled 'Sustainable Development and International Economic Cooperation: Food and Agricultural Development'."

3. At the 33rd meeting, on 9 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko S. Raichev (Bulgaria), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Food and agricultural development" (A/C.2/49/L.62), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.40

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.62 without a vote (see para. 7).

5. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.62, draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.40 was withdrawn by its sponsor.

B. Draft decision

6. At its 33rd meeting on 9 December, the Committee decided to take note of the report of the Secretary-General and the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations submitted under agenda item 88 (b) (see para. 8).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

7. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Food and agricultural development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance and continued validity of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 9/ the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 10/ the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, 11/ the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 12/ the Cartagena Commitment, 13/ Agenda 21, 14/ and the various consensus agreements and conventions that were adopted in the context of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Reaffirming also its resolutions 45/207 of 21 December 1990, 47/149 of 18 December 1992 and 47/193 of 22 December 1992,

Recognizing that freshwater resources are a scarce commodity in a growing number of countries and that there is a need to increase food production in developing countries, in part through the improved use of irrigation and water resource management suitable for agricultural production, and stressing in this context the need to give special attention to the issues agreed upon by the Commission on Sustainable Development, in particular those in paragraph 139 of the report of the Commission on its second session, 15/

Recognizing the importance of rehabilitating and upgrading present projects and conserving scarce water and land resources by the improved use of irrigation and water-resource management for agricultural production,

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9/ Resolution S-18/3, annex.

10/ Resolution 45/199, annex.

11/ Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

12/ Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

13/ TD/364, part one, sect. A, "A New Partnership for Development: The Cartagena Commitment", adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 8 to 25 February 1992.

14/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

15/ E/1994/33.

Stressing the importance of the full implementation of the decisions of the Commission on Sustainable Development and, in particular, recognizing the importance of the work undertaken by the Commission in the area of freshwater resources,

Stressing with concern that hunger and malnutrition have been increasing in many countries, particularly in Africa,

Reaffirming its commitment to helping to improve the living conditions of rural women, recognizing their critical role as farmers and food producers,

Stressing the need to provide the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that operate in the areas of food and agriculture with adequate resources to implement their mandates,

Recognizing the importance of stimulating food production and productivity in developing countries through appropriate policies, taking fully into account Agenda 21, 14/ in particular its chapter 14, and of ensuring a sustainable economic environment, including a more open trading system, for the development of a viable agricultural sector and improved food security,

1. Takes note with interest of the report of the Secretary-General on food production, including agro-industrial products, international markets for agricultural and tropical products and global food security; 16/

2. Notes with concern that, in the face of the enormous challenges in the area of agricultural development and food security, the overall resource allocation for the development of food and agriculture in developing countries has continued to decline;

3. Urges the international community to place food and agricultural development high on the development agenda and to mobilize resources at the national, bilateral and multilateral levels in support of sustainable productive agriculture and food security in developing countries;

4. Affirms that increasing food production and improving access to food by low-income people in developing countries will contribute to the alleviation of poverty and the elimination of malnutrition and help to raise their standard of living;

5. Notes that the agreements reached in the context of the Final Act of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations have established a basis for initiating a process of reform of trade in agriculture and will have an important impact on the development of food production, agro-industrial products and international markets for agricultural and tropical products and on global food security;

6. Urges all countries, particularly developed countries, to strengthen their efforts to create a more favourable international economic environment, in

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16/ A/49/438.

particular a more open agricultural trading system which will stimulate food production and productivity in developing countries, and in this context stresses the importance of the urgent and full implementation of the agreements contained in the Final Act of the Uruguay Round;

7. Notes with satisfaction the individual and collaborative efforts of the food and agricultural bodies based in Rome, namely, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Food Programme, calls upon these organizations to strengthen their collaboration in the area of food and agriculture, including with the United Nations Development Programme, and welcomes the programmes of these organizations directed to food production for food security in low-income food-deficit countries, including the initiation of two special programmes of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

8. Attaches special importance to the assistance from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to developing countries on policy transformation and technical assistance in the light of the Final Act of the Uruguay Round and in the context of the Uruguay Round decision on measures concerning the possible negative effects of the reform programme on least developed and net food-importing developing countries;

9. Urges the international community to give special attention to the promotion and revitalization of economic growth and sustainable development in developing countries through, inter alia, a more diversified food and agricultural sector, focusing in particular on agro-industrial activities in developing countries;

10. Invites the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and the multilateral financial institutions working in the field of food and agriculture to support developing country efforts in the development of small and medium-sized agro-industries and cooperatives and in the improvement of processing, transportation, distribution and marketing modalities of their food and other agricultural products;

11. Welcomes the successful conclusion of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, 17/ hopes that the Convention will attract the support of the international community towards solving the important problem confronting, in particular, Africa in that area, and in that regard supports the contribution made by, inter alia, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development to deal with the problem of land degradation in Africa, and invites those organizations to consider extending their programmes to other affected regions;

12. Urges relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, the multilateral financial institutions and non-governmental organizations to strengthen their efforts towards a comprehensive assessment of freshwater

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17/ A/49/84/Add.2, annex, appendix II.

resources, with the aim of identifying the availability of such resources, making projections of future needs and identifying problems to be considered by the General Assembly at its special session in 1997;

13. Requests the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and the multilateral financial institutions to assist interested developing countries in the formulation and implementation of national water policies and strategies;

14. Invites Governments, international organizations and, as appropriate, scientific/technical organizations to promote sustainable water use for food production and rural development by improving the efficiency of current water use for irrigation in developing countries, particularly at the village level;

15. Requests the relevant regional and international organizations to assist the cooperative efforts of developing countries in the area of conservation, sustainable use and integrated water management, and stresses the need for full implementation of the decisions of the Commission on Sustainable Development, particularly in the area of freshwater;

16. Welcomes the pledges that have been made by Member States to the Fourth Replenishment of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, and in that context invites countries that have not yet done so to consider their pledges as soon as possible, taking into account the decisions taken by the Fund's Special Committee on Resource Requirements and Related Governance Issues;

17. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, focusing in particular on the use of freshwater resources, as well as on the effects of the results of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations on food production, including agro-industrial products and global food security in developing countries;

18. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the sub-item entitled "Food and agricultural development" under the item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: food and agricultural development".

8. The Second Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on emergency action to combat locust infestation in Africa

The General Assembly decides to take note of the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on emergency action to combat locust infestation in Africa. 18/

18/ A/49/507.

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Forty-ninth session
Agenda item 88 (c)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: COMMODITIES

Report of the Second Committee (Part IV)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed Yousif MOHAMED (Sudan)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on item 88 (see A/49/728, para. 2). Action to be taken on sub-item (c) was considered at the 29th and 35th meetings, on 23 November and 13 December 1994. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/49/SR.29 and 35).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.2/49/L.29 AND Rev.1

2. At the 29th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Commodities" (A/C.2/49/L.29), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming its resolutions 45/200 of 21 December 1990, 47/185 of 22 December 1992 and 48/214 of 23 December 1993, and stressing the urgent need of their full implementation,

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* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts under the symbol S/49/728 and addenda.

"Welcoming the importance attached in Agenda 21, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 1/ to issues related to commodities in the context of sustainable development,

"Recalling the commitments on market access made in the Final Act of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations and the importance attached therein to increased export opportunities for developing countries,

"Recognizing that in many developing countries, in particular African countries and least developed countries, the commodity sector remains the principal source of export revenues, employment, income and savings and an important field for investment and makes a significant contribution to the reactivation of growth and development,

"Recognizing also the need for a better functioning of commodity markets and for stable and more predictable commodity prices through, among other things, avoiding excessive price fluctuations and searching for long-term solutions to commodity problems,

"Concerned about the difficulties experienced by the developing countries in financing and implementing viable diversification programmes,

"Mindful of the need for developing countries, especially African countries and least developed countries, to diversify their primary commodities, with a view to modernizing their production, distribution and marketing systems, enhancing productivity and stabilizing and increasing their export earnings in the context of the decline of many primary commodity prices,

"1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the commodity situation, developmental linkages between the commodity sector and other sectors, and actions required to develop such linkages in the context of diversification; 2/

"2. Expresses the urgent need for supportive international policies to improve the functioning of commodity markets through, inter alia, improving the efficiency and transparency of price fixation mechanisms, including commodity exchanges and the use of commodity price risk management instruments;

1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I and Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions Adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

2/ A/49/226.

"3. Also expresses the need for stable and more predictable commodity prices for developing countries, in particular the commodity dependent developing countries;

"4. Stresses the importance of commodity diversification as a means of increasing the export revenues of developing countries and of improving their competitiveness in the face of the loss of trade preference of their primary product;

"5. Urges developed countries to support the commodity diversification efforts of developing countries, especially African countries, by providing resources to finance the preparatory phase of their commodity diversification programmes;

"6. Reiterates the importance of maximizing the contribution of the commodity sector to economic growth and development in commodity dependent developing countries, and in this respect stresses, inter alia, that:

"(a) An appropriate domestic environment and a favourable international environment are critical for successful diversification and the creation of developmental linkages between the commodity sector and other sectors of the economy, as well as for the availability of market outlets;

"(b) Trade-distorting policies and practices, including tariff and non-tariff barriers, tariff escalation and obstacles to competition influence negatively the ability of developing countries to diversify their exports and undertake the requisite restructuring of their commodity sector;

"(c) Expansion of South-South trade in commodities offers opportunities for intersectoral linkages within and among exporting countries;

"(d) There is a need to promote research and development, provide infrastructure and support services and encourage investment, including joint ventures in developing countries engaged in the commodity and commodity-processing sectors;

"7. Emphasizes the importance of developing countries processing a significant part of their commodities, and in this regard stresses the need for new market opportunities for their processed and semiprocessed commodities;

"8. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in close collaboration with the executive secretaries of the regional commissions and other organizations concerned, to intensify the examination of the impact of the results of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations on individual commodities of particular interest to developing countries, taking into account the special and differential treatment agreed for developing countries, in particular African countries and least developed countries;

"9. Notes with appreciation the work being carried out by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in assessing the impact of the Uruguay Round on agricultural commodity markets, and encourages that organization to pursue its work and inform the General Assembly of its findings;

"10. Urges producers and consumers of individual commodities to intensify their efforts aimed at reinforcing mutual cooperation and assistance;

"11. Welcomes the assignment to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development of the United Nations global mandate for mineral resources, and urges that appropriate financial resources be made available to allow the Conference, in close collaboration with the regional commissions, to expand its technical assistance to developing countries in that area;

"12. Further welcomes the decision of the Standing Committee on Commodities of the Trade and Development Board, urging the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its work on commodity risk management, particularly in regard to developing countries;

"13. Stresses the importance of improving the competitiveness of natural products with environmental advantages and of the impact that could have on promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns, welcomes the related work being undertaken within the purview of the Standing Committee on Commodities and of the Codex Alimentarius on certification, and calls for financial and technical assistance for the developing countries for research and development with respect to such commodities;

"14. Notes that the number of requests for assistance from the Second Account of the Common Fund for Commodities is increasing, and expresses the need for further contributions to that Fund;

"15. Decides to include the question of commodities in the agenda of its fifty-first session."

3. At its 35th meeting, on 13 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft decision (A/C.2/49/L.29/Rev.1) submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.29.

4. At the same meeting, the representative of Cameroon orally revised the text by deleting, in the last preambular paragraph, the word "in" before the words "African countries".

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted revised draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.29/Rev.1, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 7).

6. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Algeria (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Belarus (see A/C.2/49/SR.35).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

7. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Commodities

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 45/200 of 21 December 1990, 47/185 of 22 December 1992 and 48/214 of 23 December 1993, and stressing the urgent need of their full implementation,

Welcoming the importance attached in Agenda 21, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 3/ to issues related to commodities in the context of sustainable development,

Recalling the commitments on market access made in the Final Act of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations and the importance attached therein to increased export opportunities for developing countries,

Recognizing that in many developing countries, in particular African countries and least developed countries, the commodity sector remains the principal source of export revenues, employment, income and savings and an important field for investment and a significant contributor to the reactivation of growth and development,

Noting the recent increase of some commodity prices, recognizing that this may not constitute a long-term trend and recognizing also the need for a better functioning of commodity markets and the necessity of stable and more predictable commodity prices, including avoiding excessive price fluctuations and searching for long-term solutions to commodity problems,

Concerned about the difficulties experienced by the developing countries in financing and implementing viable diversification programmes,

Mindful of the need for developing countries, especially African countries and least developed countries, to diversify their economies and in particular the commodity sector, with a view to modernizing their production, distribution and marketing systems, enhancing productivity and stabilizing and increasing their export earnings in the context of the general decline of primary commodity prices,

1. Takes note with interest of the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the commodity situation,

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3/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

developmental linkages between the commodity sector and other sectors and actions required to develop such linkages in the context of diversification; 4/

2. Emphasizes the need for developing countries that are heavily dependent on primary commodities to continue to promote a domestic policy and an institutional environment that encourage diversification and enhance competitiveness;

3. Expresses the urgent need for supportive international policies to improve the functioning of commodity markets through efficient and transparent price formation mechanisms, including commodity exchanges, and through the use of commodity price risk management instruments;

4. Notes the need expressed by developing countries, in particular the commodity-dependent developing countries, for stable and more predictable commodity prices;

5. Stresses the importance of commodity diversification as a means to increase export revenues of developing countries and to improve their competitiveness in the face of the persistent instability in the prices of some primary commodities and the general deterioration in the terms of trade;

6. Urges developed countries to continue to support the commodity diversification efforts of developing countries, especially African countries, inter alia, by providing technical and financial assistance for the preparatory phase of their commodity diversification programmes;

7. Reiterates the importance of maximizing the contribution of the commodity sector to economic growth and sustainable development in commodity-dependent developing countries, and in this respect stresses, inter alia, that:

(a) An appropriate domestic and favourable international environment is critical for successful diversification and the creation of developmental linkages between the commodity sector and other sectors of the economy, as well as for the availability of market outlets;

(b) Trade-distorting policies and practices, including tariff and non-tariff barriers, tariff escalation and obstacles to competition have a negative effect on the ability of developing countries to diversify their exports and to undertake the requisite restructuring of their commodity sector;

(c) Expansion of South-South trade in commodities offers opportunities for intersectoral linkages within and among exporting countries;

(d) There is a need to promote research and development, to provide infrastructure and support services and to encourage investment, including joint ventures in developing countries engaged in the commodity and commodity-processing sectors;

4/ A/49/226.

8. Emphasizes the importance for developing countries to process a significant part of their commodities, and in this regard stresses the need for new market opportunities for their processed and semi-processed commodities;

9. Expresses the need for the full implementation of the Uruguay Round agreement, taking into account the special and differential treatment agreed for developing countries, including the provisions envisaged for African countries and the least developed countries;

10. Welcomes the work being done by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the impact of the results of the Uruguay Round on individual commodities of particular interest to developing countries and invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to intensify this exercise in close collaboration with the executive secretaries of the regional commissions and other concerned organizations;

11. Notes with appreciation the work under way by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in assessing the impact of the Uruguay Round on agricultural commodity markets, and encourages the Organization to pursue its work and to inform the General Assembly of its findings;

12. Urges producers and consumers of individual commodities to intensify their efforts aimed at reinforcing mutual cooperation and assistance;

13. Welcomes the assignment to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development of the United Nations global mandate for mineral resources, and urges that efforts be made to mobilize financial resources to allow the Conference, in close collaboration with the regional commissions, to expand its technical assistance to developing countries in that area;

14. Also welcomes the decision of the Standing Committee on Commodities of the Trade and Development Board, urging the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its work on commodity risk management, particularly in relation to developing countries;

15. Stresses the importance of improving the competitiveness of natural products with environmental advantages and the impact that this could have on promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns, and calls for financial and technical assistance to the developing countries for research and development of such products;

16. Notes the increased number of requests for assistance that the Second Account of the Common Fund for Commodities is receiving, expresses the need for efficient allocation of the existing resources, and also notes the expectations expressed by member countries of the Fund that further voluntary contributions will be forthcoming;

17. Decides to include the question of commodities in the agenda of its fifty-first session.

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Forty-ninth session
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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee (Part V)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed Yousif MOHAMED (Sudan)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on item 88 (see A/49/728, para. 2). Action to be taken on sub-item (d) was considered at the 29th and 32nd meetings, on 23 November and 7 December 1994. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/49/SR.29 and 32).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.33

2. At the 29th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Cultural development" (A/C.2/49/L.33).

3. At the 32nd meeting, on 7 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko Raichev (Bulgaria), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution and orally revised it as follows:

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* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/49/728 and addenda.

(a) In operative paragraph 4, the word "expects" was replaced with the words "looks forward to";

(b) In operative paragraph 5, the words "as well as" were replaced with the words "and, within existing budgetary resources,";

(c) In operative paragraph 6, the word "undertake" was replaced with the words "consider undertaking";

(d) In operative paragraph 7, the words "an item" were replaced with the words "a sub-item".

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.33, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 5).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

5. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Cultural development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 41/187 of 8 December 1986, in which it proclaimed the period 1988-1997 the World Decade for Cultural Development, to be observed under the auspices of the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

Recalling also its resolution 46/157 of 19 November 1991, in which it invited the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to undertake the preparation of a global mid-term review of the Decade, including an examination by the Intergovernmental Committee of the World Decade for Cultural Development of the summary evaluation report to be prepared by the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

Taking into account resolution 27 C/3.2 of 13 November 1993, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twenty-seventh session,

Recalling its resolution 46/158 of 19 December 1991, in which it endorsed the establishment of an Independent World Commission on Culture and Development,

Taking into consideration Economic and Social Council resolution 1994/32 of 27 July 1994,

1. Takes note of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the progress made in

relation to the World Decade for Cultural Development during the period 1992-1993; 1/

2. Also takes note of the examination of the mid-term summary evaluation report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the Plan of Action for the Decade; 2/

3. Acknowledges the progress made by Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in implementing the Plan of Action for the World Decade for Cultural Development, 3/ and encourages them to pursue their efforts in this respect during the second part of the Decade;

4. Welcomes the establishment of the independent World Commission on Culture and Development and looks forward to its report as requested in resolution 46/158;

5. Invites all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and, within existing budgetary resources, organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system:

(a) When undertaking activities in connection with the Decade, to concentrate efforts on interdisciplinary projects of a regional and interregional scope and to encourage the formation of different types of partnerships for their implementation;

(b) To find appropriate ways to integrate cultural factors into all endeavours aimed at social and economic development and at the same time to promote intercultural understanding and appreciation;

6. Invites the regional commissions to consider undertaking, as a contribution to the final evaluation report on the Decade, in consultation with Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, a study of the cultural factors influencing development as a potential creator of jobs and generator of income;

7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session a sub-item entitled "Cultural development", and requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to submit a further progress report on the implementation of the Decade to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council in 1996.

1/ A/49/159-E/1994/62/Add.1, annex, and 2, annex.

2/ A/49/159-E/1994/62, annex.

3/ E/1986/L.30, annex.

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: INTEGRATION OF THE ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION INTO THE WORLD ECONOMY

Report of the Second Committee (Part VI)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed Yousif MOHAMED (Sudan)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on item 88 (see A/49/728, para. 2). Action to be taken on sub-item (e) was considered at its 30th and 33rd meetings, on 29 November and 9 December 1994. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/49/SR.30 and 33).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.2/49/L.44

2. At the 29th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Estonia, on behalf of Afghanistan, Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, joined subsequently by Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Japan, Mongolia, the

* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/49/728 and addenda.

former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Uzbekistan, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy" (A/C.2/49/L.44).

3. At the 33rd meeting, on 9 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko Raichev (Bulgaria), informed the Committee of the following revisions to the draft resolution made on the basis of the informal consultations:

(a) In the first line of the first preambular paragraph, the words "47/175 and 47/187 of 22 December 1992 and" were inserted after the word "resolution";

(b) At the end of the fourth preambular paragraph, the words "essential to sustainable development" were added after the words "world economy".

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.44, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 6).

5. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representatives of Algeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Belarus made statements (see A/C.2/49/SR.33)

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

6. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 47/175 and 47/187 of 22 December 1992 and 48/181 of 21 December 1993 and all its other relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the relevant decisions of the Economic Commission for Europe, namely, decisions B (49) and C (49), both of 26 April 1994, 1/ and the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, namely, 50/1 and 50/2, both of 13 April 1994, 2/

1/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 17 (E/1994/37), chap. IV.

2/ Ibid., Supplement No. 16 (E/1994/36), chap. IV.

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General on the integration of the economies in transition into the world economy, 3/ the Economic survey of Europe in 1993-1994, 4/ the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1993 5/ and the World Economic and Social Survey, 1994, 6/

Noting the ongoing efforts of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to encourage sound macroeconomic policies,

Reaffirming the need for the full integration of countries in transition from centrally planned to market economies, as well as all other countries, into the world economy essential to sustainable development,

1. Invites the United Nations system to continue its support for the efforts of economies in transition as they transform their economies and integrate them into the world economy through, inter alia, adoption of the international standards and practices of countries with market economies;

2. Welcomes the measures undertaken by the United Nations system to strengthen its abilities in response to General Assembly resolution 48/181 on the economies in transition, and calls upon the United Nations system to continue to conduct analytical activities and to provide policy advice and technical assistance to the economies in transition, tailored to each country's respective stage of economic transformation;

3. Calls upon the United Nations system to continue studying, within the scope of the implementation of the present resolution and while continuing the existing cooperation with relevant international institutions and entities, possible ways of enhancing economic and technical cooperation among countries with economies in transition, as well as with developing countries, identifying how the United Nations system can strengthen cooperation, while avoiding duplication, with a view to encouraging greater participation by those countries in the world economy;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

3/ A/49/330.

4/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.II.E.1.

5/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.II.F.8.

6/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.II.C.1.

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Agenda item 88 (f)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Report of the Second Committee (Part VII)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed Yousif MOHAMED (Sudan)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 88 (see A/49/728, para. 2). Action to be taken on sub-item (f) was considered at the 28th, 29th and 31st meetings, on 16 and 23 November and on 1 December 1994. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/49/SR.28, 29 and 31).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.23

2. At the 28th meeting, on 16 November, the representative of Ghana, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Programme for the Second Industrial Decade for Africa" (A/C.2/49/L.23).

3. At the 31st meeting, on 1 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko Raichev (Bulgaria), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution and orally revised it as follows:

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* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/49/728 and addenda.

(a) In operative paragraph 5, the words "and actions towards achieving its goals" were replaced with the words "to promote economic growth and sustainable development, including by continuing to promote a favourable climate for foreign investment";

(b) In operative paragraph 7, the words "mechanisms and facilities aimed at mobilizing resources and promoting" were replaced with the words "and innovative measures to mobilize resources and promote".

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.23, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 8, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.39

5. At the 29th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Industrial development cooperation" (A/C.2/49/L.39).

6. At the 31st meeting, on 1 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko Raichev (Bulgaria), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution and orally revised it as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 2, the words "and a positive investment and business climate" were inserted after the words "development cooperation";

(b) In operative paragraph 3, the words "and entrepreneurship" were inserted after the word "industrialization" and the word "productive" was inserted after the word "creating";

(c) In operative paragraph 6, the words "Calls upon" were replaced with the word "Invites", the word "and" was replaced with a comma after the words "Social Development", and the words "and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)" were added at the end of the paragraph.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.39, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 8, draft resolution II).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/177 of 22 December 1992, in which it adopted the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, and its decision 48/456 of 21 December 1993, in which it endorsed Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/65 of 30 July 1993,

Recalling also the Mauritius Declaration on Africa's Accelerated Industrial Recovery and Development in the Context of the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993-2002) and Beyond, adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry at its eleventh meeting,

Taking cognizance of the establishment of the African Economic Community and the need to ensure its operation,

Recalling further the resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization at its fifth session, 1/ in particular resolution GC.5/Res.12 on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, resolution GC.5/Res.16 on the industrialization of the least developed countries and resolution GC.5/Res.20, containing the Yaoundé Declaration, 2/ which emphasized that the organization should pay special attention to the industrialization of the least developed countries, and accord high priority to the industrialization of Africa and to the realization of the objectives of the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa; 3/

2. Reaffirms the importance of industrialization as a dynamic instrument of growth, essential to sustainable economic and social development of developing countries, particularly in Africa;

3. Considers industrial development to be an important vehicle for poverty eradication, income and employment generation, social integration and vertical diversification;

4. Recognizes the need for increasing the integration of African industry in world manufacturing and, for that purpose, calls for the support of the

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1/ See GC.5/INF.4.

2/ Also reproduced in A/49/347, appendix.

3/ A/49/372.

international community in achieving the goals of the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

5. Also recognizes the responsibility of the African countries in the implementation of the Decade, and calls upon them to continue to undertake appropriate measures to promote economic growth and sustainable development, including by continuing to promote a favourable climate for foreign investment;

6. Requests the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to give full assistance to improving the competitiveness of the industrial sector in Africa and to formulating measures to improve it in the light of the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations;

7. Also requests the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, in cooperation with the African Development Bank and other subregional, regional and international financial and banking institutions, to provide support, especially in the development of new and innovative measures to mobilize resources and promote foreign direct investment to African countries;

8. Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa and the Organization of African Unity to facilitate cooperation with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in order to provide support to improving African industrial cooperation and to integrating the African Economic Community into the industrial sphere, particularly in the areas of industrial policy, technology, human resource development, industrial investment, small-scale industries, enterprise development and institutional infrastructure, all of these being essential for poverty eradication, employment generation, social integration and vertical integration;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Industrial development cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 4/ the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 5/ and the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, 6/

4/ Resolution S-18/3, annex.

5/ Resolution 45/199, annex.

6/ Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

Recalling also its resolutions 45/196 of 21 December 1990, 46/146 of 17 December 1991 and 47/153 of 18 December 1992 on industrial development cooperation and the diversification and modernization of productive activities in developing countries, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/44 of 31 July 1992 on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa,

Recalling further the resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization at its fifth session, 7/ in particular resolutions GC.5/Res.20, in which it adopted the Yaoundé Declaration, 8/ and GC.5/Res.12 on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa,

Taking note of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization on industrial development cooperation 9/ and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, 10/

1. Stresses the importance of industrialization as a dynamic instrument of growth that is essential to the rapid economic and social development of developing countries;

2. Emphasizes the importance of industrial development cooperation and a positive investment and business climate, at the international, regional, subregional and national levels, in promoting the expansion, diversification and modernization of productive capacities in developing countries;

3. Reaffirms the essential role of industrialization and entrepreneurship as a means of achieving socially beneficial economic development by eradicating poverty, creating productive employment and facilitating social integration, including the integration of women into the development process;

4. Also reaffirms the central coordinating role played by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in the United Nations system in the field of the industrial development of developing countries;

5. Recalls the process of restructuring that is currently under way in the United Nations system and welcomes in that context the recent reform and restructuring of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, which should enable it, in promoting industrial development, to respond effectively to the needs of the developing countries, in particular the least developed among them and those in Africa, by providing high-quality services that are focused on clearly defined objectives;

7/ See GC.5/INF.4.

8/ Also reproduced in A/49/347, appendix.

9/ See A/49/347.

10/ See A/49/372.

6. Invites the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, to contribute, in the context of their programmes and activities, to achieving the aims and action programmes adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 11/ and the International Conference on Population and Development, 12/ and calls upon them to contribute to the preparations for the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

7. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

11/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I, Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference.

12/ See Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (A/CONF.171/13).

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (HABITAT II)

Report of the Second Committee (Part VIII)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed Yousif MOHAMED (Sudan)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on item 88 (see A/49/728, para. 2). Action to be taken on sub-item (g) was considered at the 29th and 33rd meetings, on 23 November and 9 December 1994. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/49/SR.29 and 33).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/49/L.27 and L.61

2. At the 29th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, China and Turkey, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)" (A/C.2/49/L.27), which read as follows:

* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/49/728 and addenda.

"United Nations Conference on Human Settlements
(Habitat II)

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 47/180 of 22 December 1992, by which it decided to convene the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) from 3 to 14 June 1996, and to establish both a preparatory committee and an ad hoc secretariat for the Conference,

"Reiterating its gratitude to the Government of Turkey for offering to act as host to the Conference, which is to be held at Istanbul,

"Reaffirming the importance of the principles contained in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, 1/ and the objectives, basis for action, activities and means of implementation of those activities, set out in chapter 7, entitled 'Promoting sustainable human settlements development', of Agenda 21, 2/

"Noting with interest the progress made so far in the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), as described in the reports of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference on its organizational session 3/ and its first session, 4/ as well as in the report of the Secretary-General on the progress of work of the Preparatory Committee and the ad hoc secretariat for the Conference, 5/

"Noting with concern that the resources currently available to the secretariat for the Conference, through voluntary contributions, among other sources, including maximum redeployment of resources from the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), remain insufficient to support the preparatory process for the Conference on the scale envisaged by the General Assembly in resolution 47/180, in particular with respect to the ability of the secretariat to provide assistance to developing countries and other States requiring such assistance in their national preparatory efforts for the Conference,

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1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I and Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions Adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex I.

2/ Ibid., annex II.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 37 (A/48/37).

4/ Ibid., Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 37 (A/49/37).

5/ A/49/272.

"1. Takes note of the report of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) on its organizational session, held at United Nations Headquarters from 3 to 5 March 1993 3/ and its first substantive session, held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 11 to 22 April 1994, 4/ and endorses the decisions contained therein;

"2. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General concerning progress in the preparations for the Conference; 5/

"3. Approves the recommendation contained in decision I/1 of the Preparatory Committee that a third substantive session of the Preparatory Committee, of relatively short duration, be held at United Nations Headquarters early in 1996 to complete the preparatory work for the Conference; 6/

"4. Welcomes the recommendations made by the Preparatory Committee in its decision I/2 on preparations at the country, regional and global levels, on the draft statement of principles and commitments and on the draft global plan of action, which is to be structured around the two main themes of the Conference: 'Adequate shelter for all' and 'Sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world'; 6/

"5. Endorses the call by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to give the Conference the dimensions of a 'summit', and reaffirms its decision that the Conference should be held at the highest possible level of participation; 7/

"6. Recommends that the global plan of action of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) take into account the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, at the human settlement level, and therefore invites all organs, organizations, agencies and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate fully with the secretariat of the Conference for that purpose;

"7. Recommends also that the inclusion of sustainable human settlements issues, as contained in chapter 7 of Agenda 21, be given appropriate attention within the context of an agenda for development, which is being prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 47/181 of 22 December 1992 and 48/166 of 21 December 1993, and reaffirms that human beings should be at the centre of all concerns for sustainable development;

6/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 37 (A/49/37), annex I.

7/ Resolution 47/180, para. 1.

"8. Expresses its sincere appreciation to those States and organizations that have made or pledged financial or other contributions in support of the preparatory activities for the Conference, and requests the Secretary-General of the Conference to continue to make every effort to raise the extrabudgetary resources required for Conference activities and preparations;

"9. Renews its appeal to all Governments, especially those of the developed countries and others in a position to do so, and to international and regional financial institutions, to contribute substantially to the voluntary funds established by the General Assembly in resolution 47/180 for the purpose of financing preparatory activities for the Conference and of supporting developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, in participating fully and effectively in the Conference and its preparatory process;

"10. Requests that adequate financial resources be made available from the regular budget of the United Nations, to both strengthen the ad hoc secretariat for the Conference and enhance its effectiveness, and also to permit the launching of a full-scale preparatory process, especially at the country level, that would ensure the success of the Conference as an event having a global impact;

"11. Invites all organs, organizations, agencies and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as other relevant intergovernmental organizations, to contribute fully to the preparations for the Conference;

"12. Also invites interested non-governmental organizations, particularly those from developing countries, to participate in, and contribute to the Conference and its preparatory process, taking into account procedures followed at recent United Nations conferences;

"13. Calls upon the above-mentioned organizations to contribute fully to increasing world awareness of the problems and potential of human settlements as important inputs to social progress and economic growth, and world leaders to commit themselves to making cities, towns and villages healthy, safe, just and sustainable;

"14. Requests the regional commissions to include in their programme activities for 1995 an item on the preparations for the Conference, with particular emphasis on preparations for the Conference in their respective regions, and to submit a report on those preparations to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session;

"15. Calls upon all States to ensure the broad-based participation of local authorities and other relevant actors in the national, regional and international preparatory process and to encourage a wide exchange of information and experience in this respect, in particular on the programmes of work and activities of national committees;

"16. Requests the Secretary-General to establish a special task force composed of heads of the secretariats of all relevant organs and

organizations of the United Nations system, taking into account the experience gained from previous relevant United Nations conferences;

"17. Calls upon the organs and organizations of the United Nations system to provide financial resources to interested developing countries, at their request, for the preparation of their national reports, which are to be presented, where necessary by audio-visual means, at the Conference;

"18. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Conference, to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the progress made in the preparations for the Conference, including the implementation of the present resolution;

"19. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fiftieth session an item entitled 'United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)'."

3. At its 33rd meeting, on 9 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution (A/C.2/49/L.61), submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko Raichev (Bulgaria), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.27, which was orally revised as follows: in the last line of operative paragraph 14, the words "in their countries" were inserted after the words "towns and villages".

4. A statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.27, which also pertains to A/C.2/49/L.61, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, was contained in document A/C.2/49/L.56.

5. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Algeria, on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, Belarus, Poland and Greece (see A/C.2/49/SR.33).

6. At its 33rd meeting, on 9 December, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/49.L.61, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 10, draft resolution).

7. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of Turkey (see A/C.2/49/SR.33).

8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.61, draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.27 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft decision

9. At its 33rd meeting, on 9 December, the Committee decided to take note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted under agenda item 88 (g) (see para. 11, draft resolution).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

10. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/180 of 22 December 1992, by which it decided to convene the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) from 3 to 14 June 1996, and to establish both a preparatory committee and an ad hoc secretariat for the Conference,

Reiterating its gratitude to the Government of Turkey for offering to act as host to the Conference, which is to be held at Istanbul,

Reaffirming the importance for Habitat II, inter alia, of the principles contained in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, 8/ and the objectives, basis for action, activities and means of implementation of those activities, set out in chapter 7, entitled "Promoting sustainable human settlements development", and in relevant provisions of chapter 28 of Agenda 21, entitled "Local authorities' initiatives in support of Agenda 21", 9/

Noting with interest the progress made so far in the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), as described in the reports of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference on its organizational session 10/ and its first session, 11/ as well as in the report of the Secretary-General on the progress of work of the Preparatory Committee and the ad hoc secretariat for the Conference, 12/

Also noting with interest the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on its fourteenth session, 13/

8/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex I.

9/ Ibid., annex II.

10/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 37 (A/48/37).

11/ Ibid., Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 37 (A/49/37).

12/ A/49/272.

13/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/48/8).

Noting the recommendations relevant to human settlements contained in the report of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its second session, 14/

Noting with concern that the resources currently available to the secretariat for the Conference, through voluntary contributions, among other sources, including redeployment of resources from the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), remain insufficient to support the preparatory process for the Conference on the scale envisaged by the General Assembly in resolution 47/180, in particular with respect to the ability of the secretariat to provide assistance to developing countries and other States requiring such assistance in their national preparatory efforts for the Conference,

1. Takes note of the reports of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) on its organizational session, held at United Nations Headquarters from 3 to 5 March 1993 10/ and its first substantive session, held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 11 to 22 April 1994, 11/ and endorses the decisions contained therein;

2. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General concerning progress in the preparations for the Conference; 12/

3. Approves the recommendation contained in decision I/1 of the Preparatory Committee that a third substantive session of the Preparatory Committee, of relatively short duration, be held at United Nations Headquarters early in 1996 to complete the preparatory work for the Conference; 15/

4. Welcomes the recommendations made by the Preparatory Committee in its decision I/2 on preparations at the country, regional and global levels, on the draft statement of principles and commitments and on the draft global plan of action, which is to be structured around the two main themes of the Conference: "Adequate shelter for all" and "Sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world"; 15/

5. Notes with interest the call by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to give the Conference the dimensions of a "city summit", and reaffirms its decision that the Conference should be held at the highest possible level of participation; 16/

6. Recommends that the global plan of action of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) take into account the outcome of all relevant United Nations global conferences;

14/ E/1994/33.

15/ Ibid., Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 37 (A/49/37), annex I.

16/ Resolution 47/180, para. 1.

7. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that all relevant organs, organizations, agencies and programmes intensify their efforts and cooperate closely to prepare for the Conference;

8. Recommends that the inclusion of sustainable human settlements issues, as contained in chapter 7 of Agenda 21, be given appropriate attention within the context of an Agenda for Development, which is being prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 47/181 of 22 December 1992 and 48/166 of 21 December 1993, and reaffirms that the overall human settlements objective is to improve the social, economic and environmental quality of human settlements and the living and working environments of all people, in particular the urban and rural poor;

9. Expresses its sincere appreciation to those States and organizations that have made or pledged financial or other contributions in support of the preparatory activities for the Conference, and requests the Secretary-General of the Conference to continue to make every effort to raise the extrabudgetary resources required for Conference activities and preparations;

10. Renews its appeal to all Governments, especially those of the developed countries and others in a position to do so, and to international and regional financial institutions, to contribute substantially to the voluntary funds established by the General Assembly in resolution 47/180 for the purpose of financing preparatory activities for the Conference and of supporting developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, in participating fully and effectively in the Conference and its preparatory process;

11. Requests that the work of the Preparatory Committee and the ad hoc secretariat of Habitat II should continue to be funded within existing United Nations budgetary resources to ensure that the Conference will be treated adequately with respect to other global international United Nations conferences;

12. Takes note of the contributions of the United Nations organizations, agencies and programmes and other relevant organizations active in the field of human settlements to the work of the Preparatory Committee of Habitat II in the discharge of its mandate and invites them to mobilize financial resources to assist developing countries, at their request, in the preparation of their national reports;

13. Encourages all relevant interested non-governmental organizations, particularly those from developing countries, to participate in, and contribute to the Conference and its preparatory process, on the basis of procedures followed at recent United Nations conferences;

14. Also encourages the above-mentioned organizations to contribute fully to increasing world awareness of the problems and potential of human settlements as important inputs to social progress and economic growth, and world leaders to commit themselves to making cities, towns and villages in their countries healthy, safe, just and sustainable;

15. Requests the regional commissions to include in their programme of activities for 1995 an item on the preparations for the Conference, with particular emphasis on preparations for the Conference in their respective regions, and to submit a report on those preparations to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session;

16. Calls upon all States to encourage the broad-based participation of local authorities and all relevant actors, including the scientific community, industry, trade unions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the national, regional and international preparatory process and to encourage a wide exchange of information and experience in this respect, in particular on the programmes of work and activities of national committees;

17. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Conference, to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the progress made in the preparations for the Conference, including the implementation of the present resolution;

18. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fiftieth session the sub-item entitled "United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)".

11. The Second Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 48/176 of 21 December 1993

The General Assembly decides to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 48/176 of 21 December 1993. 17/

17/ A/49/640.